India has been lost on its way to India;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that earlier shipment of the same nature was also lost; and

(d) whether Government ultimately received the Heavy Water and when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, *ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS* AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) India has not imported any heavy water at any time from Norway. Hence the question of its getting lost on its way to India does not arise.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

1227. [*Transferred to the 16th August* 1988].

Appointment of Air Chief Marshal

1228. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new incumbent appointed as Air Chief Marshal is junior to Air Marshal M. M. Singh, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that Shri M. M. Singh has resigned or sought premature retirement and if so, what are the reasons advanced by him;

(c) what are the guidelines/criteria for superseding Air Marshals in IAF and whether these have been followed in the appointment of the present Air Chief Marshal; and

(d) what is the number of earlier cases when senior army officers have been superseded and its impact on the army service?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Yes, Sir. Air Marshal S. K. Mehra is junior to Air Marshal M. M. Singh. The appointment of Chief of the Air Staff is based on comparative merit and not on seniority only.

(b) Air Marshal M. M. Singh sought premature retirement with effect from 31st July, 1988, without assigning any reasons.

(c) There are no recorded guidelines or criteria for superseding Air Marshals in the Indian Air Force. The question of following such guidelines criteria, therefore, in the case of the appointment of the present Air Chief Marshal does not arise.

(d) The number of senior Army Officers, at the level of Lt. Generals, who have been superseded for appointment as Army Commanders/ Vice Chief of the Army Staff in the last five years has been eight. Supersession of officers in the higher echelons of the Army is inevitable because of its pyramidical structure, and inherent in the selection process which is based on comparative merit. There is no question, therefore, of any adverse impact being felt on the Army.

Chief executives in public sector

1229. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
DR. YALAMANCHILI SIVAJI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of public sector industrial units which are functioning without Chief Executives to steer their affairs and since when these units are without Chief Executives in each case;

(b) what are the names of the above units which are running in losses and since when; and

(c) what steps Government have taken for cutting short delays in appointment and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) According to the available information, 24 Central Public Sector Undertakings, as on 30.6.88, did not have regular chief executives. Interim arrangements have, however, been made to look after the work of chief executives of such units. The details of vacancies in such undertakings are indicated in the Statement-I. (*See* below).

(b) The names of above units which are running in losses for the last five years ending 1986-87 are given in the Statement-II. (*See* below).

(c) A close watch is kept on the vacancies, which are monitored on regular basis. Advance action is taken for processing of selection for posts falling vacant due to superannuation. Advance action is also ensured in cases of extension of tenure of existing incumbents. Guidelines have also been issued for adhering to a definite time-frame for quicker decisions in matters relating to selection of suitable candidates for appointment to Board level positions in public sector undertakings.

Statement-I

Name of Central Public Sector Undertakings without regular Chief Executives as on 30-6-1988.

Sl. No.	Name of the enterprise	Date of occurrence of vacancy of chief executive of enterprise
1.	Bharat Brakes & Valves Ltd.	16-4-87
2.	Flurocarbons Ltd.	New Post
3.	India Tourism Development Corporation	18-3-87
4.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.	12-11-87
5.	Bharat Process and Mechanical Engg.	9-11-87
6.	NTC (UP) Ltd.	28-11-85
7.	Hospital Services Consultancy Corpn.	New post
8.	Scooters India Ltd.	26-12-86
9.	NTC (Guj.) Ltd.	17-11-87
10.	Modern Food Industries Ltd.	29-9-87
11.	Electronics Trade & Tech. Dev. Corpn.	24-4-88
12.	State Trading Corpn. Ltd.	8-10-87
13.	NTC (WBAB & O) Ltd.	16-12-87
14.	Cotton Corpn. of India Ltd.	24-9-87
15.	Minerals & Metals Trading Corpn.	18-9-87
16.	National Bicycle Corpn. Ltd.	15-1-88
17.	Central Cottage Industries Corpn. Ltd.	2-12-87
18.	Indian Revewable Energy Dev. Agency	New Post
19.	National Hydro Electric Power Corpn.	18-4-88
20.	Bengal Immunity Co. Ltd.	8-4-88
21.	Mandya National Paper Mills Ltd.	10-2-88
22.	Indian Petrochemicals Corpn. Ltd.	30-3-88
23.	Projects & Equipments Corpn.	11-5-88
24.	Mica Trading Corpn.	27-5-88

Statement-II

Central public sector undertakings amongst those mentioned in Annexure I, running into losses, for the past five years ending with 1986-87.

Sl.No.	Name of enterprise
1.	Bharat Process and Mechanical Engg.
2.	NTC(UP) Ltd.
3.	Scooters India Ltd.
4.	NTC (Guj). Ltd.
5.	Cotton Corporation of India Ltd.
6.	National Bicycle Corporation Ltd.
7.	Mandya National Paper Mills Ltd.

CBI investigation into payment of commission in Bofors contract

1230. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'The Hindu' of Madras has published some documents confirming the existence of middlemen and payment of commission to them in the Bofors howitzer deal;

(b) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has advised the Government to seek the assistance of Swedish and Swiss authorities to find out violation of Indian laws by the Bofors against; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) to (c) The Government has seen the material published in The Hindu purporting to relate to agreements concluded by M/s Bofors with certain foreign and Indian firms and alleged payments by them to these firms. Necessary investigations have already been ordered by the Government. The course of investigations shall be determined by the agencies concerned and further action shall be based on the results thereof.

National Cadet Corps Scheme

1231. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to make the National Cadet Corps (NCC) Schemes more attractive for the students, effective in implementation and more useful for the nation; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) The N.C.C. Scheme is constantly under review to make it more effective and attractive. Government had appointed an Evaluation Committee to review the working of the N.C.C. and suggest suitable measures for improvement. The Committee has since submitted its report, which is under consideration.

12.00 NOON

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Post Office (Monthly Income Account) (Amendment) Rules, 1988

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): Sir,